(b) the number of crossings proposed to be closed down to avoid accident on such crossings; and

(c) the budget provision made in this regard in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 1233 nos.

(b) 70 nos.

(c) Nil.

Conversion of Rajkot-Veraval and Ahmedabad-Veraval rail lines

836. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ahmedabad-Veraval and Rajkot-Veraval railway lines proposed to be converted into BG and to be extended up-to Kodinar has been taken in hand for execution;

(b) if so, the allocation made so far and proposed to be made during the year 1997-98;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the allocation made so far for the project has been on the decrease which will hamper the completion of the project within the time bound frame; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and how far Government propose to meet the target of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Work on conversion of Rajkot-Veraval from MG to BG and its extension upto Kodinar has been taken up. Ahmedabad-Rajkot is already a BG line.

(b) Rs. 5.50 Crs. is likely to be spent on this work upto 31.03.97. In 1997-98 Rs. 132 crs. has been allotted for this project.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

उदयपुर-चित्तौड़ रेल लाइन का गेज परिवर्तन

837. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उदयपुर-चित्तौड़ रेल लाइन के गेज परिवर्तन के लिए शिलान्यास कब किया गया था; और

(ख) इस कार्य को पूरा किए जाने की समय-सीमा कौन सी निर्धारित की गई है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) 18.10.1995 को।

(ख) नौवीं योजना अवधि के दौरान।

Replacement of Rail Bridges on Godavari River

838. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 100 years old railway bridges on Godavari river at Rajamundry in Andhra Pradesh are being replaced;

(b) if so, whether the local Municipality has requested permission to use the old bridges as pedestrain bridges instead of dismantling them; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken on the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. One bridge which is 100 years old is being replaced.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों के लिए रेल पासों का नवीकरण

839. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों को प्रति वर्ष रेलवे के डिवीजनल-कार्यालय से अपने रेल पासों का नवीकरण कराना होता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण है;